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February 19, 2004  
(Date of Deposit)

*John D. Frank*  
Signature

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(Date of Signature)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Graichen et al.

Serial No.: 09/681,652

Group Art Unit: 2113

Filed: May 16, 2001

Examiner: Wilson

Title: System, Method And Computer  
Product For Performing Automated  
Predictive Reliability

Response to Paper No.: 4

PETITION TO WITHDRAW THE HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT UNDER 37  
C.F.R. §1.181

Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2000  
MAR - 1 2004  
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Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.181, Applicant respectfully requests that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) withdraw the holding of abandonment for the above-identified patent application.

The PTO mailed Applicant an office action (Exhibit A) for the application on June 11, 2003. A reply to the office action was due in the PTO on or before September 11, 2003. Applicant transmitted by facsimile to the PTO a reply (Exhibit B) to the office action on September 5, 2003. Exhibit C shows a copy of a report from Applicant's sending unit confirming transmission of the reply to the PTO. An auto-reply facsimile transmission receipt (Exhibit D) shows that the PTO received the reply on September 5, 2003, which is prior to the deadline.

Applicant received a Notice Of Abandonment (Exhibit E) dated February 4, 2004, indicating that the application is abandoned.

These facts and exhibits clearly show that Applicant transmitted by facsimile a timely reply to the office action and that it was received by the PTO, but not correlated with the application. As a result, the PTO erroneously abandoned the application. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the PTO withdraw the holding of abandonment so that Examiner Wilson can consider the application on its merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 18, 2004